



May 5, 2005

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hoyer:

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) - the preeminent leadership organization representing middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and aspiring principals – appreciates your efforts to facilitate improved school-community relations through sponsorship of *The Full-Service Community Schools Act, H.R. 4585*.

Quality community schools enhance the coordination, delivery, and efficiency of services provided to children and families, thus improving the learning environment for all students. Efficient delivery of non-educational services to youth and families supports principals and teachers as they help students meet academic goals.

NASSP is especially pleased that your legislation includes delivery of literacy and reading programs. Far too few Members of Congress are responding to the literary needs of adolescents and corresponding dropout rates, which have reached extremely high proportions in many communities. NASSP advocates for a federal role in addressing this problem.

The responsibility of providing a quality school should not, indeed must not, rely on individuals alone. The nation's most successful schools work closely with, and have the support of, other public agencies and communities. NASSP hopes that your bill will inspire schools and communities to find new, productive, and innovative ways to work together.

Sincerely,

Gerald N. Tirozzi, Ph.D.
Executive Director